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S. Robert Powell: some basic facts

BANK ACCOUNTS:

- 9017514--CD, 15.104%, matures 01-07-1986; interest posted quarterly
- 9514806--regular savings account; interest posted quarterly
- 9995999, CD, 15.191%, matures 12-02-1985; interest posted quarterly
- 018127057--money market account; interest posted monthly

As of April 10, 1985:

- \$14,725.93
- \$00,187.93
- \$03,730.42
- \$06,554.59

\$25,198.87

-00,168.80 on 05-10-1985, SBLI annual payment
+00,038.42 on 05-21-1985, interest on number 4
+00,043.92 on 06-31-1985, interest on number 4

\$25,112.41

All of the above accounts are in the Bowery Savings Bank, Forty-Second Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City (800-221-0718). The bank books for all four accounts are in my safe deposit box (No. 166A) in the Liberty Discount and Savings Bank, Carbondale, wherein I maintain a checking account (No. 52-969-8).

SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES:

975 (key number 2393), due 11-29 annually, DWP and HLRP have duplicate keys

(Boxes 975 and 957 in First National Bank, Carbondale. 1981--DWP 75, SRP 25; 1982--SRP 75, DWP 25; 1983--SRP 25 and 25; 1984--HLRP 25, DWP 25; 1985--HLRP 25, DWP 25)

957 (key number D15664), due 11-27 annually; DWP and HLRP have duplicate keys

116A, due 11-04 annually; JVB has a duplicate key

(Box in Liberty Discount and Savings Bank, Carbondale. SRP paid \$18 for 11-04-1983--11-04-1984, check No. 223; SRP paid \$18 for the period 11-04-1984--11-04-1985, check No. 326.)

INSURANCE POLICIES:

- Whole life policy; face amount, \$10,000; policy number 73283; issued 05-10-1974; policy class, standard; premium period, 35 years; DWP and RTP beneficiaries. Savings Bank Life Insurance, Bowery Savings Bank, Forty Second Street and Lexington Avenue, NYC, phone 800-221-0718; annual premium, \$168.80, payable on 05-10.
- North American Company for Life and Health Insurance of New York, Garden City, NY; policy number 16-587242, taken out 11-14-1956, when SRP was 12; annual premium to age 65 is \$5.00, age 65 and over is \$7.50. (D.C.W., Inc., Box 100, Ithaca, NY 14850). HLRP paid \$7.50 (check 154) on 11-07-1983; HLRP paid (check 213) on 11-08-1984. Policy (Series 501-R) in Box 166A.
- Medical Insurance; Bankers Life and Casualty Company, policy number 837,009,527; telephone: 717-346-1786; policy issued 04-27-1983; initial premium \$489.49; on 05-01-1984, SRP paid \$154.83 for 3 months; on 08-06-1984, SRP paid \$154.83 for the period 07-27-1984--10-27-1984; SRP paid \$154.83 (check 314) for the period 10-27-1984--01-27-1985; check 346, dated 01-09-1985, for the period 01-27-1985--04-27-1985; check 394, \$189.54 for the period 04-27-1985--07-27-1985; check 432 (\$189.77) on 07-09-1985 for the period 07-27-1985--10-27-1985. Policy at Elkdale.

AUTOMOBILE

1984 Renault Alliance; title in Box 166A, Liberty Discount and Savings Bank, Carbondale.

I will give DWP a copy of this document and also place a copy in Box 166 A at the Liberty Bank

"Carbondale's Early Years / A Brief History" is largely a synthetic / compilation of previously published histories of Carbondale. Much of this material I put together for Charter Day 1985.

This "brief history" will be printed on the back of the monopoly game, I believe.

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CARBONDALE'S EARLY YEARS

A Brief History
By Dr. S. Robert Powell

When, in 1822, the Wurts Brothers, William and Maurice, began mining and shipping coal from what is now the city of Carbondale, they gave particular impetus to not only the establishment of a great industry, but also to the growth and development of upper Luzerne County (later to become a separate county known as Lackawanna County), then a vast wilderness with hardly a dozen inhabitants above present-day Olyphant.

Carbondale, the oldest city in the anthracite region of northeastern Pennsylvania and the fourth oldest city in the Commonwealth, was chartered as a city on March 15, 1851 (some 15 years before Scranton and 20 years before Wilkes-Barre could claim that fame). The city was created out of Carbondale Township, which in turn had been carved out of Greenfield and Blakely Townships. P. C. Gritman, later a prominent figure in the community, laid out, with the assistance of Townsend Poore and Thomas Hurley, the original city lines, on New Year's Day, 1851.

The idea of incorporating the village of Carbondale was conceived on October 5, 1850, in the afternoon, at a public meeting, under the direction of William Ball, Esquire, in the Carbondale Concert Hall, which was located on North Church Street at the southeast corner of North Main Street. The purpose of the meeting was (1) to establish a more efficient system of government than was possible under the village system, (2) to secure the benefits of a local system of courts, and (3) to establish an effective municipal means of protecting the town and its inhabitants from the fires which plagued Carbondale and all mid-nineteenth century villages and towns. The citizens of Carbondale, accordingly, to accomplish those three objectives, immediately petitioned the state legislature for a city charter. Six months later, on March 15, 1851, the charter of the city of Carbondale, which was drawn up by the Honorable Lewis Jones, was approved by an act of the state assembly, and signed by Governor William F. Johnston, thereby bringing into existence the city of Carbondale.

The first election in the new city was held on March 21, 1851, and James Archbald was elected the first mayor. The elected members of the first Select Council of the new city were: Joseph Benjamin, Peter Campbell, Thomas Gillespie, and Michael Flynn. The elected members of the first Common Council were: Thomas Sweet, Daniel Scurry, William Ball, Patrick Moffitt, James Clarkson, W. W. Bronson, Edward Jones, Alexander Bryden, Richard Howarth, Terence Powderly, Patrick Connor, and David Thatcher.

David Aillsworth, described as "from Rhode Island," is said to have been the original settler in Carbondale, in 1802, on the Meredith Place. He built a log cabin, cleared a few acres of land that summer and fall, and then returned to Rhode Island and brought back his family with him the following spring. James Holden settled in Carbondale in 1805. In 1806, Franklin Aillsworth arrived. In 1807, Peter Wedeman and James Lewis located in Carbondale. Other early settlers were Roswell B. Johnson, George Parker and Finley Skinner, all three of whom came in 1809, and Christopher E. Wilbur, who came here in 1810. By 1832, there were many families living in the village, including the following: Williams, Frisbee, Young, Lathrop, Poore, Townsend, Sweet, Raynor, Mills, Marvin, Johnson, Rogers, Powderly, Gilligan, Taylor, Simpson, Gardner, Birsall, Hill, Marsh, Clark, Jadwin, Lee, Overton, Scott, Nealon, Benjamin, Van Bergen, Coff, Eggleston, Dickson, Gillespie, Pierce, Ball, Burnham, Pierson, White, Moffitt, Brennan, Baker, Hopkins, Bowen, Dies, Clark, Smith and Love.

Christopher Wilbur, a wheelwright from Dutchess County, NY, erected a small grist mill near his home in 1812. A school was taught in his home and there too the earliest religious services in Carbondale, conducted by Elder John Miller, were held. Much of the land in the city was originally owned by an Englishman, Lord Russell, who lived in Sunbury,

and by Samuel Meredith, the first treasurer of the United States.

The pioneer settlers here had no idea of the immense wealth--in anthracite coal--that was located beneath Carbondale. When the Wurts Brothers, William and Maurice, began their coal operations here, Carbondale was put on the map.

William Wurts, a Philadelphia dry goods merchant, became interested in the possibilities of coal development in the Lackawanna Valley, through reading circulars about "stone coal" that were sent out by the owners of the coal land in the Wyoming and Schuylkill region. He came through the Lackawanna Valley first in 1812, exploring the coal lands along and near the river. He became acquainted with Christopher Wilbur, the wheelwright, who acted as guide in the Carbondale region. Returning to Philadelphia, convinced that the valley was rich in coal, William interested his brother Maurice. They set about to acquire the land that they knew to be coal bearing. Returning to the valley in 1814, William and Maurice Wurts met up with David Nobles, who had fled into the wilds about the village to escape debtors prison in Wayne County. The Wurts Brothers gave him money to secure his exemption from arrest, and employed him to hunt coal and to bring knapsacks of provisions over the mountains from Canaan. After the discovery of coal in vast quantities, William Wurts and Nobles visited Lord Russell and arranged to purchase large tracts of land that they knew to be underlaid with immense coal deposits. Nobles, shabbily dressed, was put forward as the purchaser of the land, claiming that he wanted the land to make a home for himself and several of his brothers. Nobles purchased the land, for from \$2 to \$5 per acre, in the name of William Wurts, and the Wurts Brothers had the key to the valley. This was in 1814.

In 1822, the Wurts Brothers formed the Lackawanna Coal Mine and Navigation Company and began their coal operations in Carbondale. They built a long log house near the site of the former Delaware and Hudson Station (which stood behind the Trinity Episcopal Church). Eight hundred tons of coal were dug out of the ground in 1822, and one hundred of those tons of coal were hauled by ox teams to the Lackawanna River and shipped, in the spring of 1823, to Philadelphia. The Philadelphia market was already controlled by other coal dealers, and so the Wurts Brothers turned to the New York market. They realized that if they were to get their coal to New York in quantity, that some new and efficient means of transportation had to be devised.

Maurice Wurts went to New York, where he interested Philip Hone, a man of wealth and influence, in a proposition to build a canal from Rondout on the Hudson River to the Delaware River, and to improve the navigation on the Lackawanna by digging a canal 20 feet wide to the mouth of the river. Hone, who was later Mayor of New York and after whom Honesdale was named, took kindly to the proposal. A charter was granted to Wurts by the Pennsylvania legislature on March 13, 1823. The New York legislature, in the following April, incorporated the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. In 1825, the Wurts Brothers' company and the D&H merged. Work on the canal, from Rondout to Honesdale, was completed and opened on October 16, 1828. Between the coal mines at Carbondale and the terminus of the canal at Honesdale, a gravity railroad was constructed, which was completed and opened on October 9, 1829. The millions of tons of coal under Carbondale could now be shipped to New York to market.

With the opening of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's Gravity Railroad from Carbondale to Honesdale, Carbondale was not only connected with the outside world, but also became a boom town. In a few years, Carbondale was the second largest city in the county. Welsh, Scottish, Irish, and German immigrants began to flock into the place. Railroad shops were built and gave employment to many. Churches and schools were established, and a newspaper was founded.

From a single log house in 1802, Carbondale grew to a village of 600 inhabitants in 1833, when Carbondale had six